

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-03 OMB-01

TRSE-00 ABF-01 CIEP-01 CEA-01 H-02 CU-02 SIL-01 LAB-04

EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 PA-01

USIA-06 EUR-12 /093 W

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R 150945Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8512

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5591

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, JA

SUBJECT: COURTESY CALL BY JAPANESE PERMREP ABE

1. ISAO ABE, NEW JAPANESE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR HODGSON ON APRIL 15. ABE LEAVES FOR NEW YORK ON APRIL 19.

2. DURING THE CONVERSATION, ABE ASKED ABOUT WHAT HE TERMED "CONGRESSIONAL INCLINATION TO CUT US FUNDING OF THE UN, ESPECIALLY OF CERTAIN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES." AMBASSADOR HODGSON IN REPLY STRESSED US PUBLIC'S CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT OF UN IDEALS AND OBJECTIVES. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, THERE HAS LATELY BEEN A STRONG PUBLIC REACTION TO COMMUNIST AND MANY THIRD WORLD NATIONS' PENCHANT FOR USING THE UN AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AS A FORUM FOR ALL MANNER OF ATTACKS, OFTEN GRATUITOUS, ON THE DEMOCRACIES AND PARTICULARLY ON THE US. CONGRESS, THE MOST FAITHFUL INSTITUTIONAL MIRROR OF POPULAR SENTIMENT, WELL REFLECTED THIS DISILLUSIONMENT. SO DID AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN. AMBASSADOR SCRANTON, WHOM AMBASSADOR KNOWS WELL, IS LIKELY TO ADOPT A LOWER-KEY STYLE, BUT HE WILL BE NO LESS EFFECTIVE IN CONVEYING MESSAGE THAT CONTINUED DENIGRATION

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IN THE UN OF AMERICA'S BEST INSTINCTS CAN ONLY LEAD TO

FURTHER, SUBSTANTIAL DETERIORATION OF US PUBLIC SUPPORT.

3. AMBASSADOR ALSO DISCUSSED US CONCERN WITH TRENDS IN THE ILO AND UNESCO AND, IN PARTICULAR, EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL CONCERN FOR THE "INNOCENT VICTIM" OF US PUBLIC DISILLUSIONMENT WITH THE UN, THE UN UNIVERSITY. HE POINTED OUT THAT A PROMISING MOVE IN CONGRESS TO SECURE A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE UNU HAD BEEN UNDONE BY COINCIDENTAL OBNOXIOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN NEW YORK. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED, RECENT CONVERSATIONS HE HAD IN WASHINGTON LED HIM TO BELIEVE THAT CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT THE UNU WILL EVENTUALLY RECEIVE AMERICAN FUNDING.

4. ABE SAID THAT AMBASSADOR TOGO IS A GOOD FRIEND OF LONG STANDING. TRADITIONALLY THERE IS SOME FRICTION BETWEEN THE JAPANESE ENVOYS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, BUT THAT WILL NOT BE THE CASE DURING HIS AND TOGO'S TOURS. ABE HOPES TO VISIT WASHINGTON AT AN EARLY DATE, AND TO MEET KEY OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH US UN POLICIES. AMBASSADOR URGED HIM ALSO TO SEEK, THROUGH TOGO, MEETINGS WITH FRIENDS OF JAPAN THROUGHOUT THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES.

5. FINALLY, ABE SAID HE WILL RETURN TO JAPAN IN AUGUST FOR THE US-JAPAN UN BILATERALS. THE AMBASSADORS AGREED THAT IT WILL BE MOST FORTUNATE IF AMBASSADOR SCRANTON CAN ALSO ATTEND.
HODGSON

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